

or more of the site parameters included in the site permit, or a petition is filed which alleges either that the site is not in compliance with the terms of the early site permit, or that the terms and conditions of the early site permit should be modified.

(i) A contention that a reactor does not fit within one or more of the site parameters included in the site permit may be litigated in the same manner as other issues material to the proceeding.

(ii) A petition which alleges that the site is not in compliance with the terms of the early site permit must include, or clearly reference, official NRC documents, documents prepared by or for the permit holder, or evidence admissible in a proceeding under subpart G of part 2, which show, *prima facie*, that the acceptance criteria have not been met. The permit holder and NRC staff may file answers to the petition within the time specified in 10 CFR 2.730 for answers to motions by parties and staff. If the Commission, in its judgment, decides, on the basis of the petitions and any answers thereto, that the petition meets the requirements of this paragraph, that the issues are not exempt from adjudication under 5 U.S.C. 554(a)(3), that genuine issues of material fact are raised, and that settlement or other informal resolution of the issues is not possible, then the genuine issues of material fact raised by the petition must be resolved in accordance with the provisions in 554, 556, and 557 which are applicable to determining application for initial licenses.

(iii) A petition which alleges that the terms and conditions of the early site permit should be modified will be processed in accord with 10 CFR 2.206. Before construction commences, the Commission shall consider the petition and determine whether any immediate action is required. If the petition is granted, then an appropriate order will be issued. Construction under the construction permit or combined license will not be affected by the granting of the petition unless the order is made immediately effective.

(iv) Prior to construction, the Commission shall find that the terms of the early site permit have been met.

(b) An applicant for a construction permit, operating license, or combined license who has filed an application referencing an early site permit issued under this subpart may include in the application a request for a variance from one or more elements of the permit. In determining whether to grant the variance, the Commission shall apply the same technically relevant criteria as were applicable to the application for the original or renewed site permit. Issuance of the variance must be subject to litigation during the construction permit, operating license, or combined license proceeding in the same manner as other issues material to those proceedings.

Subpart B—Standard Design Certifications

§ 52.41 Scope of subpart.

This subpart set out the requirements and procedures applicable to Commission issuance of rules granting standard design certification for nuclear power facilities separate from the filing of an application for a construction permit or combined license for such facility.

§ 52.43 Relationship to appendices M, N, and O of this part.

(a) Appendix M to this part governs the issuance of licenses to manufacture nuclear power reactors to be installed and operated at sites not identified in the manufacturing license application. Appendix N governs licenses to construct and operate nuclear power reactors of duplicate design at multiple sites. These appendices may be used independently of the provisions in this subpart unless the applicant also wishes to use a certified standard design approved under this subpart.

(b) Appendix O governs the staff review and approval of preliminary and final standard designs. A staff approval under appendix O in no way affects the authority of the Commission or the presiding officer in any proceeding under subpart G of 10 CFR part 2. Subpart B of part 52 governs Commission approval, or certification, of standard designs by rulemaking.